

ABSTRACT

A method for forecasting future telecommunications network growth so as to maximize carrier profitability. The method being a service-driven network planning method for more accurately forecasting the future equipment needs of telecommunications carriers. A plurality of different service forecasts are utilized to create a network model. These forecasts are translated into bandwidth flows and modeled as they traverse the network. An amalgamation of these flows is translated into equipment needs and existing equipment is subtracted from the needs to result in a long-term equipment needs forecast. Financial metrics that model the carrier business plan are also employed to generate a forecasted profit and loss statement. With such a statement, long-term strategic issues that will impact carrier performance and profitability can be identified.